

ATTACHMENT B

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A protocol process for adapting the a degree of interactivity between a participant computer equipment item and a reciprocal participant computer equipment item of a set of participant computer equipment items, when this participant computer equipment item and this reciprocal participant computer equipment item are subjected to an interactive dialogue, wherein ~~it consists at least~~ the process comprises:

- a) ~~in-writing~~, into a memory of said participant computer equipment item, a list of reciprocal participant computer equipment identifiers;
- b) ~~in-writing~~, into the memory of said participant computer equipment item, a list of behavior identifiers, said behaviors being relevant in said interactive dialogue;
- c) ~~in-writing~~, into the memory of said participant computer equipment item, at least one association between an a computer equipment identifier and a behavior identifier and, in order to execute this interactive dialogue, when this participant computer equipment item and at least one reciprocal participant computer equipment item are in each other's presence;
- d) ~~in-carrying out~~ a procedure of authentication between said participant computer equipment item and said reciprocal participant computer equipment item, and
- [[-]] ~~in-searching~~ for the identifier of the authenticated reciprocal participant computer equipment item in said list of identifiers;
- [[-]] ~~in-reading~~ said associated behavior identifier; and

[[...]] in-applying, at the participant computer equipment item, a behavior relative to the authenticated reciprocal participant computer equipment item, this behavior being selected as a function of the result of the authentication procedure and associated with the behavior identifier and with the identifier of the reciprocal participant computer equipment item.

2. (Currently Amended) The ~~protocol~~process as claimed in claim 1, wherein, in the event of a negative response to the step of searching for the identifier of the authenticated reciprocal participant computer equipment item in the list of identifiers, said protocol consists in calling and applying a default behavior procedure that is selected as a function of the result of said authentication procedure.

3. (Currently Amended) The ~~protocol~~process as claimed in either claim 1, wherein said procedure of authentication between the participant computer equipment item and the reciprocal participant computer equipment item is a procedure at more than one authentication level.

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~protocol~~process as claimed in claim 1, for reciprocally adapting the interactivity between a participant computer equipment item and a reciprocal participant computer equipment item of a set of participant computer equipment items, when this participant computer equipment item and this reciprocal participant equipment computer item are subjected to an interactive dialogue, wherein it ~~consists~~the process comprises:

a) in writing, into the memory of each participant equipment item and into the memory of each reciprocal participant computer equipment item, respectively, a list of identifiers of reciprocal participant computer equipment items and participant computer equipment items, respectively;

b) in writing, into each participant computer equipment item and into each reciprocal participant computer equipment item, respectively, a list of behavior identifiers, said behaviors being defined in said interactive dialogue;

c) in writing at least one association between an equipment identifier and a behavior identifier into the memory of each participant computer equipment item and each reciprocal participant computer equipment item, each participant computer equipment item and each reciprocal participant computer equipment item, respectively, having at least one association between an identifier of reciprocal participant computer equipment items and a behavior identifier, respectively between an identifier of participant computer equipment items and a behavior identifier; and, in order to execute this interactive dialogue, when a participant computer equipment item and a reciprocal participant computer equipment item are in each other's presence;

d) in carrying out a procedure of reciprocal authentication between said participant computer equipment item and said reciprocal participant computer equipment item; and

e) in searching for the identifier of the authenticated reciprocal participant computer equipment item and of the authenticated participant computer equipment item, respectively, in said lists of identifiers;

f) in reading at least said associated behavior identifier in the participant computer equipment item and in the reciprocal participant computer equipment item, respectively; and

g) in applying, independently, at the authenticated participant computer equipment item and the authenticated reciprocal participant computer equipment item, respectively, a behavior relative to the authenticated reciprocal participant computer equipment item and the authenticated participant computer equipment item, respectively, this behavior being selected as a function of the result of the authentication procedure and associated with the behavior identifier and with the identifier of the reciprocal participant computer

equipment item and with the behavior identifier, respectively, and with the identifier of the participant computer equipment item.

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~process~~process as claimed in claim 1, wherein said participant computer equipment item comprises, stored in a non-volatile memory, at least:

[[-]] a list of identifiers of reciprocal participant computer equipment items, one of the list elements of which designates the identifier of said reciprocal participant computer equipment item;

[[-]] a list of identifiers of the behaviors of said participant computer equipment item relative to a reciprocal participant computer equipment item, said list comprising at least one element forming a behavior reference of interactive dialogue acceptance, of interactive dialogue refusal or of interactive dialogue conditional acceptance;

[[-]] a list of associations between ~~an~~ a computer equipment identifier and a behavior identifier, said list of associations allowing an element of the list of identifiers of reciprocal participant computer equipment items and an element of the list of behavior identifiers to be brought into correspondence with each other.

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~process~~process as claimed in claim 4, wherein said reciprocal participant computer equipment item comprises, stored in a non-volatile memory, at least:

[[-]] a list of identifiers of participant computer equipment items, one of the list elements of which designates the identifier of said reciprocal participant computer equipment item;

[[-]] a list of identifiers of the behaviors of said reciprocal participant computer equipment item relative to a participant computer equipment item, said list comprising at

least one element forming a behavior reference of interactive dialogue acceptance, of interactive dialogue refusal or of interactive dialogue conditional acceptance; and

[[-]] a list of associations between an a computer equipment identifier and a behavior identifier, said list of associations allowing an element of the list of identifiers of participant computer equipment items and an element of the list of behavior identifiers to be brought into correspondence with each other.

7. (Currently Amended) The protocol process as claimed in claim 1, wherein said participant computer equipment item is formed by a terminal, provided with a microprocessor card reader, said reciprocal participant computer equipment item being formed by a microprocessor card.

8. (Currently Amended) The protocol process as claimed in claim 7, wherein said participant computer equipment item is formed by a terminal for descrambling scrambled information, said scrambled information being transmitted in point-to-multipoint mode from an emission center, access to this information being controlled from access control messages containing the cryptogram of a control word and access criteria that are transmitted periodically with the scrambled information, and said reciprocal participant computer equipment item being formed by a dedicated microprocessor card, serving as an access control module, comprising at least one security processor and a secure, programmable, non-volatile memory comprising written access rights, said written access rights being managed from messages for managing the access rights transmitted with the scrambled information, said access to this information being controlled by verifying the identity of at least one access control right that is written into the card and of one of the access criteria, and by deciphering, in said reciprocal participant computer equipment item of the cryptogram, the control word from an operating key, in order to restore the control word, allowing the scrambled information to be descrambled in said participant computer equipment item from this restored control word, in said participant computer equipment item,

[[-]] said at least one element forming a behavior reference of interactive dialogue acceptance is formed by a list of behaviors relative to reciprocal participant computer equipment items that are authorized to initiate said interactive dialogue; and

[[-]] said at least one element forming a behavior reference of interactive dialogue refusal is formed by a list of behaviors relative to reciprocal participant computer equipment items that are authorized to initiate said interactive dialogue, from which the facility to initiate said interactive dialogue has been withdrawn.

9. (Currently Amended) The ~~protocol~~process as claimed in claim 8, wherein, in said reciprocal participant computer equipment item,

[[-]] said at least one element forming a behavior reference of interactive dialogue acceptance is formed by a list of behaviors relative to participant computer equipment items that are authorized to initiate said interactive dialogue; and

[[-]] said at least one element forming a behavior reference of interactive dialogue refusal is formed by a list of behaviors relative to participant computer equipment items that are authorized to initiate said interactive dialogue, from which the facility to initiate said interactive dialogue has been withdrawn.

10. (Currently Amended) The ~~protocol~~process as claimed in claim 5, wherein said at least one element forming a reference of interactive dialogue conditional acceptance is formed by a list, at least one of the elements of which is representative of a functional behavior of said reciprocal participant computer equipment item and of said participant computer equipment item, respectively.

11. (Currently Amended) The ~~protocol~~process as claimed in claim 5, wherein said at least one element forming a reference of interactive dialogue conditional acceptance is formed by a list, at least one of the elements of which is representative of a personal

behavior of the user of said reciprocal participant computer equipment item and of said participant computer equipment item, respectively.

12. (Currently Amended) The ~~process~~process as claimed in claim 8, wherein the steps of writing into each participant computer equipment item and/or each reciprocal participant computer equipment item are implemented by transmitting messages for managing access rights.

13. (Currently Amended) The ~~process~~process as claimed in claim 8, wherein, for an authentication procedure between a descrambling terminal, serving as a participant computer equipment item, and a card, serving as a reciprocal participant computer equipment item, comprising a strong authentication level, an intermediate authentication level and a zero authentication level, said ~~process~~process ~~consists~~comprises, in accordance with the achieved authentication level and as a function of the identity of said reciprocal participant computer equipment terminal:

[[•]] for an achieved strong authentication level, ~~in~~-authorizing an access mode by impulse buying;

[[•]] for an achieved intermediate authentication level, corresponding to a strong authentication level that has not been achieved, but to the displaying of a user code for the reciprocal participant computer equipment that has been achieved, ~~in~~-authorizing the processing of all of the management messages and of all of the access control messages apart from the access mode by impulse buying; and

[[•]] for a zero authentication level, corresponding to a strong authentication level that has not been achieved, and to the displaying of a user code for the reciprocal participant computer equipment that has not been achieved, ~~in~~-authorizing the processing of the individual management messages.

14. (Currently Amended) The ~~process~~process as claimed in claim 1, wherein, for a set of N equipment items connected in a network and each capable of executing an interactive dialogue with another computer equipment item of this set of computer equipment items, said ~~process~~process ~~consists~~comprises:

[[-]] in-attributing, to one computer equipment item, the role of participant equipment computer item for all of the transactions, by transmitting a query message to another computer equipment item of said set of computer equipment items;

[[-]] in-attributing, to this other computer equipment item, for this transaction, the role of reciprocal participant computer equipment item;

[[-]] in-attributing, to said computer equipment item, the role of reciprocal participant for all other transactions, separate from this transaction, on receipt, by means of said computer equipment item, of a query message issuing from another computer equipment item that is separate from said set of computer equipment items;

[[-]] in-attributing, to said other, separate computer equipment item, the role of participant computer equipment item for said other transaction; and

[[-]] in-applying said ~~process~~process between any computer equipment items, any other computer equipment items, and any other computer equipment items that are separate from said set of computer equipment items, to which the role of participant computer equipment item and/or the role of reciprocal participant computer equipment item has been attributed, which allows a suitable interactive dialogue to be executed between any computer equipment items of this set of computer equipment items by means of pairs of computer equipment items, to which the roles of participant and reciprocal participant, respectively, have been attributed.

15. (Currently Amended) The ~~process~~process as claimed in claim 1, wherein, for a set of N computer equipment items connected in a network and each capable of executing

an interactive dialogue with another computer equipment item of this set of computer equipment items, said ~~protocol~~process ~~consists~~comprises:

[[·]] in attributing, to one computer equipment item, the role of participant computer equipment item for all of the transactions, by transmitting a query message to a plurality of other computer equipment items, forming a subset of said set of computer equipment items;

[[·]] in attributing, to each of said other computer equipment items to which said query message is addressed, for this transaction, the role of reciprocal participant computer equipment item, relative to said participant computer equipment item; and

[[·]] in applying said ~~protocol~~process between this computer equipment item, to which the role of participant computer equipment item has been attributed, and each of the other computer equipment items of this subset of said set of computer equipment items, said ~~protocol~~process comprising, at said participant computer equipment item;

[[·]] a procedure of authentication between said participant computer equipment item and each of said other computer equipment items of this plurality of other computer equipment items, to which the role of reciprocal participant has been attributed, and, as a function of the result of each authentication procedure;

[[·]] a procedure for distinguishing the behavior of said participant computer equipment item relative to each of said other computer equipment items of this plurality of other computer equipment items, to which the role of reciprocal participant computer equipment item has been attributed; and

[[·]] a procedure for determining the common behavior of said participant computer equipment item relative to each of said other computer equipment items of this plurality of other computer equipment items, to which the role of reciprocal participant computer equipment item has been attributed, which allows said common behavior of any

computer equipment items of this set of computer equipment items to be applied relative to the other computer equipment items of this plurality of other computer equipment items, forming a subset of said set of computer equipment items.

16. (Currently Amended) The ~~protocol~~process as claimed in claim 15, wherein, for a behavior of said participant computer equipment item relative to each of said other reciprocal participant computer equipment items, formed by a list of elementary behaviors of this participant computer equipment item, said procedure for determining the common behavior consists in calculating the list resulting from the intersection of said lists of elementary behaviors.

17. (Currently Amended) The ~~protocol~~process as claimed in claim 15, wherein, for a behavior of said participant computer equipment item relative to each of said other reciprocal participant computer equipment items, formed by a list of elementary behaviors of this participant computer equipment item, said procedure for determining the common behavior consists in calculating the list resulting from the union of said lists of elementary behaviors.

18. (Currently Amended) The ~~protocol~~process as claimed in claim 1, wherein, for a set of N computer equipment items connected in a network and each capable of executing an interactive dialogue with another computer equipment item of this set of computer equipment items, said ~~protocol~~process ~~consists~~comprising:

[[-]] in-attributing, to one computer equipment item, the role of participant computer equipment item for all of the transactions, by transmitting a query message to a plurality of other computer equipment items, forming a subset of said set of computer equipment items;

[[-]] in-attributing, to each of said other computer equipment items to which said query message is addressed, for this transaction, the role of reciprocal participant computer equipment item, relative to said participant computer equipment item;

[[·]] in-applying said ~~process~~process between this computer equipment item, to which the role of participant computer equipment item has been attributed, and each of the other computer equipment items of this subset of said set of computer equipment items, to which the role of reciprocal participant computer equipment item has been attributed, said ~~process~~process comprising, at said participant computer equipment item;

[[·]] a procedure of authentication of each of said other computer equipment items, to which the role of reciprocal participant computer equipment item has been attributed, and, as a function of the result of this authentication procedure, each of said other computer equipment items, to which the role of reciprocal participant computer equipment item has been attributed, being capable, individually, of executing an interactive dialogue with said computer equipment item, to which the role of participant computer equipment item has been attributed;

[[·]] a joint procedure of authentication of the subset of the reciprocal participant computer equipment items relative to said participant computer equipment item, and, as a function of the result of this joint authentication procedure, the subset of said reciprocal participant computer equipment items being authenticated as a joint reciprocal participant for the execution of said transaction;

[[·]] a joint procedure for authorizing the subset of the reciprocal participant computer equipment items to execute the interactive dialogue relative to said participant computer equipment item and, once the joint authorization procedure has been achieved;

[[·]] a procedure for distinguishing the joint behavior of said participant computer equipment item relative to the subset of the reciprocal participant computer equipment items, to which the role of joint reciprocal participant has been attributed, and, once the distinguishing procedure has been achieved; and

[[*]] a procedure for determining and applying the joint behavior of said participant computer equipment item relative to said other computer equipment items, to which the role of joint reciprocal participant has been attributed, which allows said joint behavior of any computer equipment items of this set of computer equipment items to be applied relative to all of the plurality of computer equipment items, to which the role of joint reciprocal participant has been attributed.

19. (Currently Amended) The ~~protocol~~process as claimed in claim 18, wherein said joint authentication procedure ~~consists in~~comprises verifying to its true value the logical product of the logical values that are representative of each reciprocal authentication procedure.

20. (Currently Amended) The ~~protocol~~process as claimed in claim 18, wherein said joint authorization procedure ~~consists in~~is comprising:

[[*]] in-establishing, from said list of identifiers of reciprocal participant computer equipment items, written into said participant computer equipment item, a composed identifier formed by the identifier of the reciprocal participant computer equipment items authorized to participate in said transaction and approved as identifiers of reciprocal participant computer equipment items, for which the joint authentication procedure has been verified to the true value, relative to the participant computer equipment item.

21. (Currently Amended) The ~~protocol~~process as claimed in claim 20, wherein said procedure for distinguishing the joint behavior of said participant computer equipment item relative to the subset of the reciprocal participant computer equipment items ~~consists in~~comprises:

[[*]] in-selecting the association between the composed identifier and a behavior identifier in said participant computer equipment item;

[[-]] in-calling, from the composed identifier, the behaviors defined in the list of associations.

22. (Original) Computer equipment item comprising input/output means allowing messages to be transmitted and/or received in an interactive dialogue with another computer equipment item, calculation means connected to said input/output means, a working random access memory and at least one programmable, non-volatile memory, wherein said item comprises, written in the non-volatile memory, at least:

[[-]] a list of computer equipment item identifiers, accessible via said input/output means;

[[-]] a list of behavior identifiers defined in said interactive dialogue; and

[[-]] at least one list of associations between an equipment identifier and a behavior identifier.

23. (Original) Computer equipment item as claimed in claim 22, wherein said item also comprises a security processor and means for authenticating any computer equipment item considered for executing an interactive dialogue with said computer equipment item.

24. (Previously Presented) Computer equipment item as claimed in claim 22, wherein said item comprises means for processing the following lists: a list of equipment identifiers, a list of behavior identifiers and a list of associations between an equipment identifier and a behavior identifier.